

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 13, 2011

SENATE BILL

No. 611

Introduced by Senator Steinberg

February 17, 2011

An act to add Section 66205.6 to the Education Code, relating to instructional strategies.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 611, as amended, Steinberg. Public postsecondary education: the University of California.

Existing law, the Donahoe Higher Education Act, sets forth the missions and functions of California's public and independent segments of higher education, and their respective institutions of higher education. Provisions of the act apply to the University of California only to the extent that the Regents of the University of California, by appropriate resolution, act to make a provision applicable. Existing law also requires the California State University, and requests the University of California, to establish model uniform academic standards, develop and implement a speedy process whereby high schools may obtain approval of their courses as satisfying specified admissions requirements, and develop a simple procedure to evaluate career technical education courses, as specified.

This bill would request the Regents of the University of California, subject to availability of funds in the annual Budget Act, the availability of federal or private funds, or any combination thereof, to establish and maintain the University of California Curriculum Integration Institute (UCCII) to be administered by the President of the University of California.

The UCCII would facilitate statewide collaboration and innovation *among secondary level teachers, faculty, and instructors from various disciplines from the University of California, the California State University, the California Community Colleges, private higher education institutions, and statewide career technical education associations* in providing pupils with course content and experience within priority industry sectors among those identified in the California Career Technical Education Model Curriculum Standards as adopted by the State Board of Education. The UCCII would also develop, disseminate, and promote career-oriented, integrated academic and technical education courses that meet course requirements for admission to the University of California and the California State University, and align with high-priority industry sectors among those identified in the California Career Technical Education Model Curriculum Standards as adopted by the state board.

~~The President of the University of California, California would be required to determine the priority among the industry sectors in consultation with appropriate state entities, industry leaders, representatives of organized labor, educators, and other parties, would determine the priority among the industry sectors, but not limited to, educators, industry leaders, representatives of organized labor, and appropriate state entities.~~

The bill would make legislative declarations and findings.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (1) California's public systems of education have a significant
- 4 opportunity to contribute to the state's job growth and economic
- 5 recovery by aligning middle and high school curricula more closely
- 6 to the needs of growing and emerging sectors of the California
- 7 economy.
- 8 (2) Studies show that high schools that bring together strong
- 9 academics, demanding technical education, and real world
- 10 experience are more likely to engage pupils, raise high school
- 11 graduation rates, and better prepare pupils for lasting success in
- 12 postsecondary education and careers.

1 (3) However, many California ~~pupil~~ *pupils* now face educational
2 challenges that could impede their ability to be productive
3 participants in the state and national economy.

4 (4) Nearly 100,000 California pupils dropped out of middle and
5 high school in the 2008–09 school year, a number equivalent in
6 size to the population of the City of San Mateo or *the City of*
7 Compton. Gainful employment prospects for dropouts are
8 shrinking, given the changing nature of the California economy.

9 (5) The Public Policy Institute of California projects that by
10 2025, two of every five jobs, 41 percent, will require a college
11 degree, an increase from less than one-third of all jobs in 2005.
12 Without increased degree production in the state’s colleges and
13 universities, the growth of our emerging economy will be hindered
14 by a lack of highly educated workers.

15 (6) Large majorities of California pupils surveyed say they
16 would be more motivated to work hard and do well if they attended
17 schools where they could take courses needed for college and at
18 the same time have the chance to acquire skills and knowledge
19 relevant to future careers.

20 (7) A stronger and more integrated approach to learning—, one
21 that combines rigorous academics with career education—, can
22 engage and motivate pupils who are at risk of dropping out and
23 can create more options for them after high school, whether they
24 choose college or career. That type of approach can better prepare
25 pupils for entry directly into the workforce after high school,
26 without compromising academic goals and preparation for college.

27 (8) Investments in delivering pupils the skills and knowledge
28 needed for further education and employment in California’s
29 high-growth, high-demand industries are investments in the growth
30 of a knowledge-intensive, innovation economy.

31 (b) The Legislature further finds and declares the following:

32 (1) The University of California Curriculum Integration Institute
33 (UCCII) has begun developing coursework that can accelerate
34 significant and needed changes in the way California pupils learn
35 in the classroom, and can keep more pupils engaged in school
36 through applied learning opportunities that prepare them for college
37 and career.

38 (2) The UCCII brings together ~~high-school~~ *secondary level*
39 teachers and experts from across the state and nation to develop

1 new, model courses that provide pupils with rigorous academic
2 content linked to real world applications.

3 (3) Administered by the University of California, the UCCII
4 connects ~~kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, secondary~~
5 *level* educators with faculty and instructors in a number of
6 disciplines from the University of California, the California State
7 University, California Community Colleges, private higher
8 education institutions, and statewide career technical education
9 associations to develop high school curriculum based on
10 career-oriented, integrated academic and technical education
11 content. These newly designed, fully integrated, “a-g” approved
12 courses will serve to enhance pupil prospects for postsecondary
13 education and employment.

14 (4) Through the UCCII, California has a significant opportunity
15 to leverage existing infrastructure to better align middle and high
16 school curricula more closely to the needs of growing and emerging
17 sectors of the California economy by providing teachers with
18 ~~supports~~ *the support* and tools necessary to design career-oriented,
19 integrated academic, and technical education content. In doing so,
20 the UCCII can contribute significantly to engaging and retaining
21 at-risk pupils in the early years of high school as well as contribute
22 to job creation, economic development, and sustained economic
23 growth in California.

24 (c) It is the intent of the Legislature to see rapid implementation
25 and scaling of the UCCII. Toward that end, it is the intent of the
26 Legislature, subject to availability of funds in the annual Budget
27 Act, the availability of federal or private funds, or any combination
28 thereof, that the UCCII:

29 (1) Facilitate no less than 10 convenings annually.

30 (2) Serve at least 500 educators each year.

31 (3) By January 1, 2015, have developed no less than 250 courses.

32 SEC. 2. Section 66205.6 is added to the Education Code, to
33 read:

34 66205.6. (a) Subject to availability of funds in the annual
35 Budget Act, the availability of federal or private funds, or any
36 combination thereof, the Regents of the University of California
37 are requested to establish and maintain the University of California
38 Curriculum Integration Institute (UCCII) to be administered by
39 the President of the University of California. The Institute shall
40 accomplish all of the following:

1 (1) Facilitate statewide collaboration and innovation *among*
2 *secondary level teachers, faculty, and instructors from various*
3 *disciplines from the University of California, the California State*
4 *University, the California Community Colleges, private higher*
5 *education institutions, and statewide career technical education*
6 *associations* in providing California pupils career-oriented,
7 integrated academic and technical education content in a manner
8 that provides pupils with opportunities to experience the application
9 of subject matter content within high-priority industry sectors
10 among those identified in the California Career Technical
11 Education Model Curriculum Standards as adopted by the state
12 board.

13 (2) Develop, disseminate, and promote career-oriented,
14 integrated academic and technical education courses that meet
15 course requirements for admission to the University of California
16 and the California State University, and align with high-priority
17 industry sectors among those identified in the California Career
18 Technical Education Model Curriculum Standards as adopted by
19 the state board.

20 (b) For purposes of subdivision (a), the President of the
21 University of California; *shall determine the priority among the*
22 *industry sectors* in consultation with ~~appropriate state entities,~~
23 ~~industry leaders, representatives of organized labor, educators, and~~
24 ~~other parties, shall determine the priority among the industry~~
25 ~~sectors;~~ *but not limited to, educators, industry leaders,*
26 *representatives of organized labor, and appropriate state entities.*

27 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Regents of
28 the University of California are requested to establish procedures
29 and forms to administer the institute only if the regents, by
30 resolution, make these provisions applicable.